



Robert Greene Sterne Edward J. Kessler Jorge A. Goldstein David K.S. Cornwell Robert W. Esmond Tracy-Gene G. Durkin Michele A. Cimbala Michael B. Ray Robert E. Sokohl Eric K. Steffe Michael Q. Lee Steven R. Ludwig John M. Covert Linda E. Alcom Robert C. Millonig Lawrence B. Bugaisky Donald J. Featherstone Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim Timothy J. Shea, Jr. Patrick E. Garrett Heidi L. Kraus Edward W. Yee Albert L. Ferro* Oonald R. Banowit Peter A. Jackman Teresa U. Medler Jeffrey S. Weaver Kendrick P. Patterson Vincent L. Capuano Eldora Ellison Floyd Thomas C. Fiala Brian J. Del Buono Virgil Lee Beaston Kimberly N. Reddick Theodore A. Wood Elizabeth J. Haanes Joseph S. Ostroff Frank R. Cottingham Christine M. Lhulier Rae Lynn Prengaman Jane Shershenovich* Lawrence J. Carroll* George S. Bardmesser Daniel A. Klein* Jason D. Eisenberg Michael D. Specht Andrea J. Kamage Tracy L. Muller* LuAnne M. DeSantis John J. Figueroa Ann E. Summerfield Tiera S. Coston* Aric W. Ledford* Michael D. Specht Jessica L. Parezo Timothy A. Doyle* Cynthia M. Bouchez Nicole D. Dretar* Ted J. Ebersole

Registered Patent Agents • Karen R. Markowics • Karen R. Mirkowics • Holene C. Carlson Gaby L. Longsworth Matthew J. Dowd Aaron L. Schwartz Mary B. Tug Katrina Y. Pei Quach Bryan L. Skelton Teresa A. Colella Jeffrey S. Lundgren Victoria S. Rutherford Eric D. Hayes Michelle K. Holoubek Robert H. DeSelms Simon J. Elliott Julie A. Heider Mita Mukerjee Scott M. Woodhouse Of Counsel Kenneth C. Bass III Evan R. Smith Marvin C. Guthrie

*Admitted only in Maryland *Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

May 12, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER: (202) 772-8660
INTERNET ADDRESS: TDURKIN@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 10/810,835; Filed: March 29, 2004

or: Multi-Wheel-Drive Vehicle with a Front Transaxle Device

Inventor:

Akihiro IMA

Our Ref:

0666.1760002/TGD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Claim For Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) In Utility Application; and
- 2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Tracy-Gerée G. Durkin Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 32,831

TGD/nar Enclosures



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Akihiro IMA

Appl. No.: 10/810,835

Filed: March 29, 2004

For: Multi-Wheel-Drive Vehicle with a

Front Transaxle Device

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 0666.1760002/TGD

Claim For Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) In Utility Application

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) is hereby claimed to the following priority document, filed in a foreign country within twelve (12) months prior to the effective filing of the above-referenced United States utility patent application:

Country	Priority Document Appl. No	Filing Date
JAPAN	2000-172151	June 8, 2000

A certified copy of the listed priority document was submitted in the grandparent case (Appl. No. 09/876,092). Prompt acknowledgment of this claim and submission is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Tracy-Gene G. Durkin Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 32,831

Date: May 12, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005-3934 (202) 371-2600